



The Bulletin intends to publish this regular section presenting health data from urban areas. While the initial data will be from New York City, as in this issue, we invite other urban areas to submit such information. Comparisons between cities can be especially illuminating.

THE EDITOR

Homicide Deaths in New York City

Trends in Homicide Deaths, New York City, 1901-1990

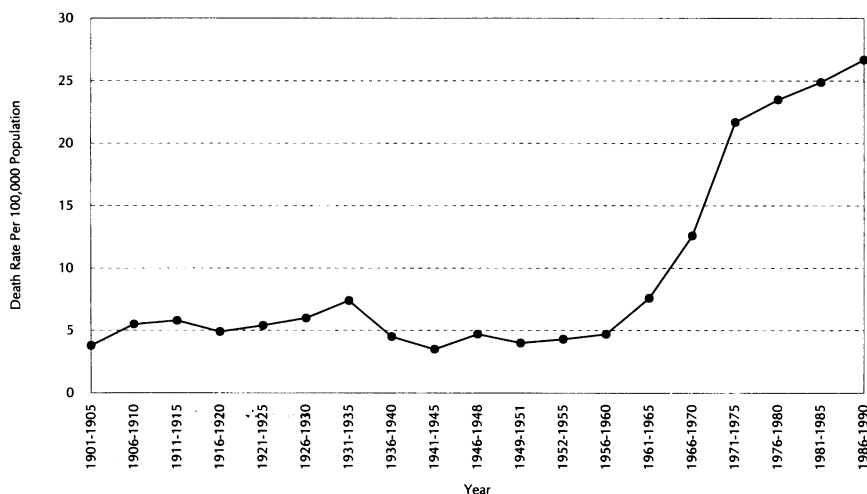


FIG. 1. The crude rate of New York City homicide deaths varied around 5 per 100,000 population from the beginning of the century until 1960. The rate began to climb then and quadrupled in about 15 years. The rate of increase declined somewhat in the 1980s, but exceeded 26 deaths per 100,000 by the beginning of the 1990s. Since then, the annual number of homicides has stabilized and may be declining.

Homicide Deaths By Age & Percent By Firearms New York City, 1993

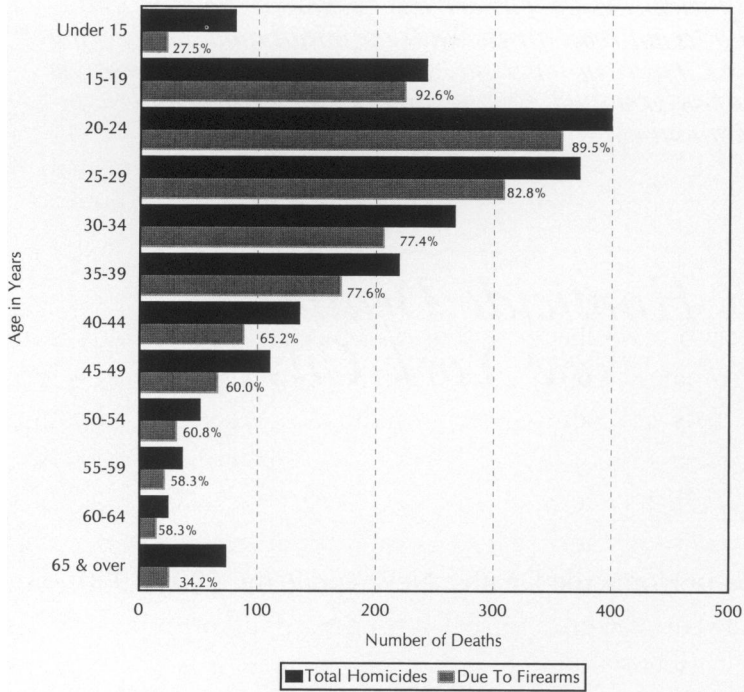


FIG. 2. The age distribution of the 2007 1993 New York City homicide victims demonstrates that this cause of death strikes young adults disproportionately, with more than half being under 30 years of age. The vast majority of these deaths are caused by firearms; even at the oldest age group, in which about one third are caused by firearms, this is the single most frequent method of death.